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CREDITON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Report of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



for the year ending

31st. DECEMBER, 1953.

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YEAR 1953

To:

The Crediton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the year.

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------------|
| Area | = | = | = | = | = | = | 93,370 acres |
| Population | = | = | = | = | = | = | 9,905 |
| Number of inhabited houses | = | = | = | = | = | = | 3,110 |
| Rateable value (1st. October) | = | = | = | = | = | = | £31,603 |
| Product of a penny rate | = | = | = | = | = | = | £130. 7. 7.584d. |

VITAL STATISTICS

| 1. <u>BIRTHS</u> | | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Live Births | - Legitimate | 37 | 33 | 70 |
| | Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| Still Births | - Legitimate | - | - | - |
| | Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population | | | | 7.06 |

| 2. <u>DEATHS</u> | | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Deaths from all causes | | 33 | 29 | 62 |

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|---|
| Puerperal Sepsis | = | = | - |
| Other Puerperal causes | = | = | - |

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

| | | | | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------|---|---|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Legitimate | = | = | = | - | - | - |
| Illegitimate | = | = | = | - | - | - |

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | = | = | = | - | - | - |
| Illegitimate | = | = | = | - | - | - |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|------|
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | = | = | Nil. |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) | = | = | Nil. |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years of age | = | = | Nil. |

3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR

| <u>Disease</u> | <u>Total cases notified</u> | <u>Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital</u> | <u>Total Deaths</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 1 | - | Nil |
| Whooping Cough | 28 | - | Nil |
| Measles | 50 | - | Nil |
| Acute Pneumonia | 4 | - | Nil |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 1 | 1 | Nil |

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) NURSING SERVICE

District Midwives

(b) CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Health Visitors

(c) MIDWIFERY

General Practitioners and Midwives

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES, MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Clinics at Newcombes and at Morchard Bishop

(e) TUBERCULOSIS AND VENEREAL DISEASES

Tuberculosis investigations at Ivybank, Exeter, treatment at Hawkmoor Chest Hospital. V.D. Clinic - Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

(f) AMBULANCES

Service

(g) FOOD POISONING

Investigations at County Laboratory

(h) LABORATORY WORK

County Laboratory and Department of Pathology, R.D.&E. Hospital, Exeter.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
L.N. JACKSON, B.A., D.M., B.CH. (Oxon)
Medical Officer of Health Crediton Rural Area

Report of the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor for the year
ending 31st. December, 1953.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1953.

HOUSING

The building of new houses continues, but also continuing is the falling into disrepair of existing dwellings owing to the high building costs and low rents.

32 Council Houses were completed during the year; in the Parishes of Shobrooke 6, Morchard Bishop 12, Sandford 8, Wembworthy 4, and Poughill 2.

13 dwellings were erected by private enterprise; 3 conversions of buildings into dwellings were also completed.

Work on further Council Housing was in progress at Sandford 12, Bow 8, Thelbridge 4, and Poughill 4.

At the end of the year, 286 Council Houses were occupied. Normal maintenance work was carried out as required at these houses, and other works carried out on these Estates included the erection of 10 Garages at Lapford; the provision of mains water to 6 houses at Black Dog and to 4 houses at Puddington; the conversion of earth closets into water closets to 6 houses at Black Dog; and the provision of concrete paths at Black Dog and Puddington. Work was also in progress on the renewal of 26 Cooking Ranges - being the third instalment of the scheme for the replacement of all worn out and out-dated Cooking Ranges.

No Formal Notices were issued under the Housing and Public Health Acts, but 29 houses were repaired and made habitable as a result of Informal Action.

HOUSING ACT, 1949 - HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

19 enquiries were received. 2 Formal Applications were submitted in respect of two dwellings; both were approved. The approved expenses were £1,198 and the amount of Grant approved was £499. Both schemes were completed.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The number Licensed during the year was 23.

BUILDING LICENSING

4 Licences were issued for repair and conversion, to the value of £4,087. 13 Licences for the erection of New Dwellings were issued - value £34,430.

BUILDING BYELAWS

61 new Applications were received under the Byelaws. 58 approvals were issued, whilst 3 applications were disapproved. Inspections were made as necessary during building operations.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

Under the Planning Acts, 90 applications were received. 85 approvals were issued. 4 applications were refused.

WATER SUPPLY

The year 1953 was the driest year in England and Wales since 1933, the rainfall being only just over 75% of the average.

The drought in the early months had a considerable adverse effect on the yield from springs and other local sources, and where supplies were dependent on these sources, shortages were experienced.

Villages where local supplies had to be augmented by haulage, included Cheriton Bishop, 355,400 gallons; Down St. Mary, 344,600 gallons; Coldridge, 247,600 gallons; and small quantities to Sandford and Yeoford.

By the end of the year the North Devon Water Board, I am very pleased to report, had extended their mains to Cheriton Bishop, Down St. Mary and Coldridge.

Work is in progress on mains laying to Zeal Monachorum.

Extensions to Chawleigh, Wembworthy, Woodland Head, Coleford, Colebrooke and Yeoford are planned for 1954.

The number of houses supplied from public mains in each Parish at the end of the year is as set out below :-

| Parish | Supplied into Houses | Est'd Population | From Standpipes | Est'd Population |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Bow | 30 | 105 | 70 | 245 |
| Brushford | - | - | - | - |

| Parish | Supplied into Houses | Est'd Population | From Standpipes | Est'd Population |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Chawleigh | - | - | - | - |
| Chariton Biahop | 44 | 154 | - | - |
| Chariton Fitzpaine | 61 | 213 | 19 | 66 |
| Clannaborough | - | - | - | - |
| Coldridge | 17 | 59 | 8 | 28 |
| Colebrooke | 12 | 42 | 3 | 10 |
| Crediton Hamlets | 8 | 28 | - | - |
| Down St. Mary | 40 | 140 | - | - |
| Eggesford | - | - | - | - |
| Hittisleigh | - | - | - | - |
| Kennerleigh | 7 | 24 | - | - |
| Lapford | 107 | 374 | 19 | 66 |
| Morchard Bishop | 112 | 392 | 12 | 42 |
| Newton St. Cyres | 21 | 73 | - | - |
| Nymet Rowland | - | - | - | - |
| Poughill | 24 | 84 | 5 | 17 |
| Puddington | 16 | 56 | - | - |
| Sandford | 113 | 395 | 10 | 35 |
| Shobrooke | 40 | 140 | - | - |
| Stockleigh English | - | - | - | - |
| Stockleigh Pomeroy | 17 | 59 | - | - |
| Thelbridge | 19 | 66 | - | - |
| Upton Hellions | - | - | - | - |
| Washford Pyne | 16 | 56 | - | - |
| Wembworthy | - | - | 14 | 49 |
| Woolfardisworthy | 20 | 70 | - | - |
| Zeal Monachorum | 2 | 7 | 26 | 91 |
| | 726 | 2537 | 186 | 649 |

WATER SAMPLES

5 samples of water were taken; 2 for Chemical Analysis and 3 for Bacterological Analysis.

One sample proved unsatisfactory on Bacterological examination.

FARM WATER SUPPLIES

In addition to extensions carried out by the North Devon Water Board, a number of other agricultural premises have been provided with an adequate supply of water.

This year, 8 Ministry of Agriculture Grant-aided Schemes have been completed,

SEWERAGE

An extension of the Lapford sewer outfall has been completed. The Council has agreed in principle to proceed, in conjunction with the Okehampton Rural District Council, with Improvement Works to the Sewage Plant and Outfall at Crockernwell Village, which is situated partly in this District and partly in the Okehampton area.

The Ministry refused permission for the Council to proceed with major schemes at Cheriton Bishop, Cheriton Cross, Chawleigh, Morchard Bishop, Shobrooke, Newton St. Cyres and Copplestone.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Inspections of food premises have been made and the standard of cleanliness has been found to be reasonably satisfactory.

17 premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed Ice Cream. No premises are registered for the manufacture of this product.

2 Slaughterhouse Licences were issued for emergency slaughtering. One Knacker's Yard Licence was issued.

The premises were conducted satisfactorily.

A small quantity of canned and bottled food was surrendered and condemned.

There were no food poisoning cases.

STATUTORY AND INFORMAL NOTICES

No Statutory Notices were issued. 14 Informal Notices were issued for repairs to dwellings under the Housing Acts. 2 Informal Notices under the Public Health Acts were issued in respect of three properties.

These Notices were complied with.

PETROLEUM ACTS

2 new Installations for the storage and sale of Petroleum Spirit were licensed during the year.

The total number of Licences issued was 74.

EXPLOSIVE ACTS

No new Licences were issued. The number of premises Registered remain at 22.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Continues to work satisfactorily. Small extensions on the routes have been made to serve new localities.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

During the absence of the Council's Rodent Operator on Royal Naval Reserve duties, work of inspection under this Act was carried out as far as possible by the Department and all necessary treatment was done by the Agricultural Executive Committee's Rodent Operators.

INSPECTIONS, VISITS, ETC.

The Inspections, Visits, Interviews, and Meetings carried out or attended by the Department during the year are summarised below:-

PUBLIC HEALTH.

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Building Byelaws | . | . | . | . | . | . | 241 |
| Cowsheds | . | . | . | . | . | . | 19 |
| Complaints | . | . | . | . | . | . | 79 |
| Disinfections | . | . | . | . | . | . | 3 |
| Disinfestations | . | . | . | . | . | . | 3 |
| Drains | . | . | . | . | . | . | 169 |
| Moveable Dwellings | . | . | . | . | . | . | 22 |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | . | . | . | . | . | . | 56 |
| Schools | . | . | . | . | . | . | 15 |
| Sewers and Disposal | . | . | . | . | . | . | 48 |
| Water Supplies - General | . | . | . | . | . | . | 65 |
| Water Supplies - Farm | . | . | . | . | . | . | 16 |
| Water Samples | . | . | . | . | . | . | 8 |

HOUSING.

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| Council Houses | . | . | . | . | . | . | 3784 |
| Housing Acts | . | . | . | . | . | . | 93 |
| Improvement Grants | . | . | . | . | . | . | 27 |
| Overcrowding | . | . | . | . | . | . | 0 |
| Public Health Acts | . | . | . | . | . | . | 45 |

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT

BUILDING LICENSING.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Bakehouses | . | . | . | . | . | . | 6 |
| Food Premises | . | . | . | . | . | . | 37 |
| Ice Cream Premises | . | . | . | . | . | . | 17 |
| Knackers Yards | . | . | . | . | . | . | 6 |
| Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection | . | . | . | . | . | . | 15 |

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

PETROLEUM ACTS

EXPLOSIVE ACTS

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Sec. 50)

INTERVIEWS, MISC. INSPECTIONS, ETC.

MEETINGS

S.M. PERRIAM, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

